

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for categorizing non-textual subject data, such as digital images, utilizes content-based data and meta-data to determine outcomes of classification tasks. The classification system has a modular architecture in which modules configured to perform specific functions, including algorithmic functions, can be integrated or deleted from the system. At the center of the classification system is a decision module comprising: (1) a task component having a number of classification tasks arranged within a task tree configuration, (2) an algorithmic component for selecting an algorithm for each classification task, (3) a sub-algorithmic component for selecting sub-algorithmic routines for each algorithm, and (4) a learning component for constructing and modifying the arrangement of the task tree and the classification tasks based on the frequencies of occurrences for the classes associated with a set of files.